

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 24, 1998 LB 1099

incremental steps, so you have no opportunity to shift and adjust. A classic example of how we could respond to those who say we ought not tax food, and we ought not tax prescriptions, is to change the reduction on the sales tax from a full point to a half a point, and you've once again revenue neutralized or balanced the plan. When you put enough things on the table, when you are willing to dare to think larger on behalf of all the people who have historically been asking for a response from this body and from their government, then there are many adjustments that are possible. The ag land refundable income tax credit may not have to be at that price, but I will admit that it is designed to have those people who own ag land who are sitting around the coffee table in Harrison or Ewing or someplace else talking about the responsiveness of this body to them and to their concerns. I think most people have been surprised that just by a combination of these established ideas you are able to offer this kind of tax relief in every arena of what is generally property tax, income tax, sales tax and agricultural concerns. And then when you're done with that exercise, because you've broadened the tax base, because you have gone where we have grown, you have gone where people are spending ever-increasing amounts of money, you have gone to the services sector, you generate almost unbelievable amounts of money which, as Senator Landis has identified, are not...it is not a shift from I pay it here or I pay it there. I am not paying for jet aircra...for a tax on jet aircraft fuel today. I suspect none of you are. And I am not going to pay for a tax on jet aircraft fuel tomorrow if we adopted this plan, and look at the money that's involved. And then when you study the specifics of it, you find...and I had someone who received this idea favorably, who I think highly of, said, well, you have to be careful of the concept that people will tanker their jets. They'll fly someone (sic), fill them with fuel, fly into Nebraska and land, takeoff, fill with fuel someplace else. It's interesting to me. They are going to burn a lot of fuel escaping our tax because we're the only state that doesn't have a tax on jet aircraft fuel in the surrounding states. In a competitive world, I think even the people who pay tax on jet aircraft fuel might chuckle at that one, that we were smart enough to put it where every other state who surrounds us already has it, and raise the revenue from it, and factor it into the economy. Forty-four million dollars worth of